

**INTERACTIVE TOPOLOGY GRAPHS FOR  
VISUALIZATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF  
SONET CONSUMPTION PATTERNS**

**Abstract**

A computer-based monitoring system provides interactive topology information about a synchronized optical network (SONET). The monitoring system utilizes a trunks integrated record keeping system (TIRKS) connected to the SONET for collecting status data in a raw format. A computer system retrieves the raw format status data from TIRKS and provides the data in a simple graphical user interface to a user. The interface includes several menus from which the user may specify specific components of the SONET, and a graphical output for providing a graphical representation of the SONET. The graphical output illustrates each node and link and interactively provides more detailed information about any user selected link or node.

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